

J - alumni awards: call for nominations

Each year the Columbia Journalism Alumni Association seeks nominations of outstanding alumni.

The recipients are recognized at the annual spring meeting in New York City.

One hundred twenty alumni spanning the classes of 1913 to 1983 are award winners.

The awards are given for overall career excellence, a singular journalistic achievement, or outstanding work in journalism education.

The alumni association executive committee will vote on candidates this winter.

Well-articulated submissions describing the nominees' accomplishments in some detail, with supporting documentation when appropriate, are the most likely to meet a successful outcome.

The deadline is early this month so please move as quickly as possible.

Send nominations to:

Alumni Awards Committee,
Journalism Alumni Association,
Graduate School of Journalism,
Columbia University,
New York, N.Y. 10027.



A look back at 1994

PEOPLE: O.J. and Nicole Brown Simpson, Michael Espy, Joycelyn Elders, Ben Chavis, Marion Barry, Khalid Muhammad, Michael Jackson & Lisa Marie Presley. **PLACES:** Haiti, Rwanda, South Africa, Somalia, Wedowee, Ala., Union, S.C.

1994 zoomed along and the news consumers and news gatherers must have been dazed by overflow of sleaze, vulgarity, venality, demagoguery, bloodlust. Fortunately, there were many more examples of courage, candid talk and commitment.

Here is a limited recap of media-related events that passed us by last year:

- Three books by black journalists – two of them memoirs – tried to widen or sharply analyze surviving and striving in America. The books were *Rage of a Privileged Class* (Ellis Cose); *Makes Me Wanna Holler* (Nathan McCall) and *Parallel Time* (Brent Staples).
- Meredith Lewis, 52, (J-'72) died in the waning days of 1993. The long-time newspaper and broadcast journalist had begun teaching in Pittsburgh.

There was a bittersweet reminder of the loss of **Toni Yvonne Joseph**, 31 (J-'86). Seven months after her death she was recognized with a Pulitzer Prize for international reporting.

- **Reginald Stuart**, J-'71 became president of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ).

- *Shade*, an African-American oriented lifestyle magazine edited by **Sheryl Huggins**, J-'91, debuted.

Emerge, a hard-hitting and enterprising monthly of news, politics and culture, survived talk of its demise. It turned 5 last fall.

- **UNITY '94**, a first-ever convention of black, Hispanic, Asian-American and Native American journalists, drew about 6,000 people to Atlanta last summer. There's talk of having another summit in the year 2000, affirmation that the joint convention was a successful start.

Meanwhile minority representation in the news business inched upward. In daily newspapering, minorities represent about 11 percent of the newsroom workforce, well below demographic makeup of the United States but remarkably better than the newsroom profile a quarter century ago.

While traditional journalism struggled to make itself more inclusive and relevant (the what is "Community Journalism" debate raged year-long) consumers and gathers road tested new media on the so-called information superhighway. The pressure is on for Americans to be multilingual: Learn Spanish. Japanese. Internet.

Continued on back page

BLACK AMERICAN'S NEWSPAPER
emerge



Budget Update

Balance before July 1994 issue	\$ 188
Revenues July 15 to December 15	\$ 638
Subtotal	\$ 826

Expenditures July to December issues (printing, postage, supplies)	\$ 697
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Balance before January 1995 issue	\$ 129
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300 to 400 newsletters
circulate monthly

Peek at the past

Five years ago
January 1990

One year ago I left the city hall beat at The Chicago Tribune to cover the Midwest from National Public Radio's Chicago bureau.

At the time I switched, I barely knew how to hold the microphone correctly. The only radio work I'd done was in Joyce (Shelby) Young's class in J-school, and my scripts then were prone to what she derisively called "print attacks."

Radio style is more conversational, more immediate and more descriptive than my newspaper prose has been.

NPR's knack for balancing comprehensiveness and clarity with detail and depth won me over as a listener several years ago, and eventually challenged me to try radio journalism for myself.

The transition from print has been gradual; in fact, it's continuing. Most of us, even my seasoned colleagues in radio,

tape. My own is complicated by a lisp and a degree of "mike shyness" that took sessions with a voice coach to improve. The hardest part of the job has been learning to relax, to sound authoritative, to convince myself that people really want to hear what I'm talking about. And to expect and prepare for technical difficulties. Fortunately, on stories ranging from the fiscal crisis in East St. Louis, Ill., to Chicago public school reform, to the mayoral election in Cleveland, little has gone terribly wrong. When it does, I've learned to try something else and tell myself that there's no use in panicking. In broadcasting, what's over is over.

Each reporter gathers her own interviews and sound on cassette, then transfers cuts to reel-to-reel tape for editing. We cut tape the old-fashioned way with single-edged razor blades and we write and deliver our own scripts.

— Cheryl DeVall, '82, wrote this account for Datelines, a feature on the workplace.

Black Alumni Network Newsletter

5 Hopewell Lane
Sicklerville, N.J. 08081-2503
(609) 728-4062 or 728-4001

Wayne J. Dawkins
Editor

Betty Winston Baye
Senior editor

Cheryl Devall
Lisa R. Rhodes
Contributing editors

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Founded by Columbia
Journalism alumni.

(ISSN 1040-7758)

Faculty Search

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Applications and nominations are invited for junior and senior faculty positions for the 1995-96 academic year. Openings are anticipated in:

Broadcast Journalism (reporting, writing and producing for television and radio); and

Print Journalism (newspaper or magazine reporting and writing).

One-year renewable and tenure-track positions will be filled from the ranks of distinguished professionals with an interest in teaching and publication. Specific areas of specialization include urban affairs, international affairs, and computer-assisted reporting. Editing, production and multi-media experience desirable.

The School strongly encourages applications from minorities and women. Please send letter, vita and three references to:

Committee on Faculty Appointments
Graduate School of Journalism
Columbia University
New York, N.Y. 10027

Jobline

The Village Voice has several openings. One is for a **chief of research**. Position demands an efficient, experienced administrator familiar with editorial research and the legal perils of journalism. Send resume to Doug Simmons. Another position is **designer**. Calls for design of articles and sections as assigned by the design director and assistance in the daily operation of the department. Send resume to Ted Scott. And the other position is **assistant manager, production** systems. Calls for management of all staff and deadlines associated with the weekly production of the newspaper. Send resume to Linda Nelson, director, new media & technology. The mailing address for these positions is the Village Voice, 36 Cooper Square, New York, N.Y. 10003-7118. . . WHYY TV-12 and 91 FM Philadelphia-Wilmington, Del. has these openings: **Associate producer, part-time, 12 Tonight;**

reporter/producer, 12 Tonight (Delaware Broadcast Center); **production assistant, part-time, Artscape**. Send resume, cover letter and salary requirements to Deborah Palmer, director of human resources, WHYY, Inc., 150 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106.

B.A.N. People

Since July, **Rob Parker, '88**, Detroit Free Press sports columnist, has been hosting a talk show on all sports radio WDFN-AM 1130. With co-host Michael Stone they are "The Odd Couple" on the afternoon drive show.

Marjorie Valbrun, '86, Trenton bureau correspondent for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, was named Journalist of the Year at the Garden State Association of Black Journalists scholarship and awards benefit last month.

Also, the T. Thomas Fortune lifetime achievement award was given to **Wayne Dawkins, '80**, of the Camden *Courier-Post*.

Valbrun was recognized for depth coverage of the upheaval in Haiti, where she was born.

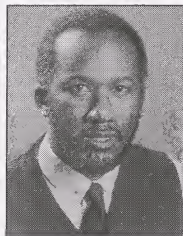
Dawkins, and editor and columnist, was recognized for making significant strides in ensuring that minorities are well-represented in the newsroom.

Fortune (1855-1928), editor of the *New York Globe* and *New York Age*, lived in Red Bank, N.J.

Why did *Black Enterprise* magazine create a new list the "Top 50 Black Entertainment Powerbrokers" (December 1994)? "Because," explained editor-in-chief **Sheryl Hilliard Tucker, '82**, "lists such as the '40 Most Powerful Blacks in Corporate America' and the '25 Hottest Blacks on Wall Street' serve as resource databases for our readers and the nations' business community."



Marjorie Valbrun



Wayne Dawkins

Contributors to *Body & Soul – The Black Women's Guide to Physical Health and Emotional Well-Being* (HarperPerennial, \$20), include: The late Toni Y. Joseph, '86; and Evelyn C. White, '85. The 587-page book was edited by Linda Villarosa. . . . **Rosemarie Robotham, '80**, is an editor-at-large at *Essence* magazine.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY invites applications for The John S. Knight Fellowships for Professional Journalists for 1995-96. Twelve professionals from U.S. print and broadcast journalism are awarded Knight Fellowships at Stanford. They pursue an academic year of study, intellectual growth and personal change. The program seeks applicants who have demonstrated uncommon excellence in their work and who have the potential of reaching the top ranks in their specialization. Candidates must have at least seven years' professional experience. Application deadline is Feb. 1. Write or phone John S. Knight Fellowships, Building 120, Room 426, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. 94305-2050.

We want to hear from you

Let us know when you move, change jobs, reach milestones or just want to bring news to our attention.

Look back at 1994

Continued from front page

• **The Sylvia Wilson Fund** at Columbia J-school moved closer to endowment.

• **More Books: Valerie Wilson Wesley**, J-'82 branched out as a black woman mystery writer. **Lise Funderburg**, J-'91, delved into the biracial reality with her book, *Black, White, Other*. A before Columbus Foundation Book Award for **Jill Nelson**, J-'80. Her 1993 title *Volunteer Slavery* continued

selling in '94 as a paperback and audiobook.

• *The Bell Curve*, a book released last fall by Charles Murray and the late Richard Herrnstein, wickedly suggested that low-IQ blacks were sapping America's resources. The text zoomed to the top of bestseller lists, but was largely panned by critics as pseudo science. Not satisfied with reacting viscerally, many black writers and journalists fired back with facts and logic to straighten out the *Bell Curve*.

How to advertise

We get inquiries from universities and other institutions, about ad rates. Display rates and sizes are:

- 1 column
(2 1/2"x 5" = \$ 75
- 1 column
(2 1/2"x 10" = \$150
- 2 column
(5" x 5" = \$150

Discount for multiple insertions:

2x = 10 percent off

3x = 15 percent off

The 10th of each month is the deadline for the following months' issue.

Here's what just one person says about the new book

What Now, *South Africa*?

"The reports in this book enlightened a whole nation of people on what was going on in South Africa. Sure, we got the reports on television and in newspapers. But those reports weren't the heart and soul of what was happening. Ben Johnson gave us that. He painted a picture that a whole nation of people never saw on TV, never read in the papers. If the November [1994] elections had been held just after the South African elections, there would have been a different outcome in the United States. Ben Johnson's reports had everybody ready to go out and vote."

Tom Joyner, host, "Tom Joyner Morning Show"

If you want to understand the significance of the events that dominated headlines in 1994, you must have this book. Veteran journalist Ben Johnson explains the elections and the events that led up to them. He tells you why we should care about what happens there. He introduces you to the players, major and minor. And he does it in a language that is emotional and easy to understand.

FOREWORD BY WINNIE MAMMOLA

To order your copy, please send \$13.95, plus \$1.78 shipping tax
RosannAlyce Press, PO Box 217, Dundee, IL 60118 USA
 (Illinois residents, please add \$1.01 state sales tax)
 Credit card orders, call 1-(800) WHO-WHAT

ISBN: 0-9614418-3-6 Library of Congress Card Catalog: 94-74101

1994-95 Minorities job fairs

Seven fall and winter minority journalism job fairs are scheduled.

They are co-sponsored by the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE) and the Newspaper Association of America (NAA).

Newspaper recruiters are to interview minority students for entry-level jobs and internships Feb. 2-4 in San Jose, Calif., and Feb. 9-10 in Tampa, Fla.

Call (703) 648-1146 for information.

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Peek at the past S. Hilliard Tucker, J-'82, edits another magazine

Ten years ago
March 1985

BALTIMORE – Life as a female sports reporter is a potpourri of challenges, hard work, not enough time and the development of tougher than tough skin.

But most of all, it's fun.

As the first black woman to write sports at the 75-year-old *Evening Sun*, my introduction to the staff was greeted with skepticism.

(Eunetta Boone initially looked for a job on the metro staff, but opportunity knocked in sports).

The summer was spent writing a bowling column, covering spot news press conferences on the city soccer and baseball team, writing a story about a cancer victim with one leg who was running across the country, and going to a boxing benefit which was held to fund organ donor programs.

Sitting at ringside at the boxing match, I was treated to sweat and blood that sprayed onto my notebook pad, clothes, hair, and the soda I could no longer drink.

At the start of football season, I was selected for the area college beat, making me responsible for covering 12 football teams. I had to write game stories, profiles, takeouts, in addition to a weekly notes column on Division IAA, II and III schools.

No, I do not go into locker rooms, although major colleges allow women reporters to go in. I'm usually pacing outside of locker room doors, waiting to interview coaches and players.

— By Eunetta T. Boone, J-'84

This is an excerpt from "Woman sportswriter scores."

After newspapering the author was last heard of writing for television in Los Angeles.

Black Enterprise editor-in-chief and vice president of editorial operations Sheryl Hilliard Tucker, Columbia University J-'82, was named editor of *Your Company*, a controlled-circulation small-business quarterly published by *Money* magazine and American Express Publishing Corp. The announcement was made last month by *Money* managing editor Frank Lalli.

Your Company is a 3-year-old publication distributed to 1.25 million of America's small-business owners who are American Express Corporate Card members. It offers its readers news and advice for making their businesses thrive and grow.

Said Lalli "We will make the magazine indispensable to America's entrepreneurs, while also increasing its frequency in the years ahead.

"We're quite fortunate to attract such a widely respected and innovative editor," as Tucker.

She had been with *Black Enterprise* since 1982, held several positions and was the first editor to hold the title editor-in-chief, which she was named in January 1993. Under her leadership the magazine expanded its coverage and advice in the areas of corporate news, careers, personal finance and investments.

From 1987-90 Tucker served as consultant and editor-at-large. During that period she was with Tucker Hilliard Associates, a Millburn, N.J. marketing communications firm. Tucker is a board member of the American Society of Magazine Editors.

Jobline

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York seeks an editor of research publications. Must be experienced in substantive editing of manuscripts. Contact Lorraine Saulino, 59 Maiden Lane, 39th Floor, New York, NY 10045. . . . New York City Council seeks to fill vacancies in its Office of Oversight and Investigation. Experience in journalism, auditing, public administration, public procurement, the environment or law are preferred. Send cover letter, two resumes, writing sample and salary history to Council Services Division, 250 Broadway, Room 2401-95-1, New York, NY 10007. . . . WCVB-TV 5, Boston, seeks applicants for Leo Beranek Fellowships in news reporting. Contact Carol Nicholson Bolling, WCVB, 5 TV Place, Needham, Mass. 02192.

More opportunities, back page



Book: Earl Caldwell's reports from the front

Black American Witness: Reports From The Front by Earl Caldwell, was released last month by Lion House Publishing.

Caldwell, while a reporter for *The New York Times*, was the only journalist to witness the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. Caldwell was also a central figure in the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case largely responsible for the enactment of so-called shield laws for reporters in 27 states.

From the late 1970s until last year Caldwell was a columnist with the *New York Daily News*.

Black American Witness is \$24.95 plus shipping. Write to Lion House Publishing, 1119 Staples St., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002. Or call (202) 388-5532.

Rutgers protests target wrong foe

Rutgers University President Francis Lawrence apologized profusely but caught flak anyway last month when it was learned he said months ago that blacks lacked the right genetic stuff to score well on standardized tests. In response, students rallied and called for Lawrence's dismissal.

A black woman staged a sit-in at center court at half-time of the Rutgers-U. Massachusetts

**WAYNE
DAWKINS**
Commentary

basketball game. Other students joined in and the game had to be suspended.

An amazing feat, for a student protest to pre-empt a big-time college ball game. But that extraordinary act illustrated the depth of anger and hurt over Lawrence's words.

But is severing the college president's head a victory over racism? I think not. This case would be more of a pyrrhic battle won, and a setback in the culture war over race and class.

First, is Lawrence the enemy? He candidly admitted what he said; said he did not mean what he said and apologized.

Then he contended that Rutgers had a good record for diversity and inclusion on his watch. Lawrence's critics — they include faculty and administrators — argue the school's record is mixed.

Anyway, Lawrence is unlike other white leaders, who when confronted over things

they said stonewalled or dismissed the challenge.

Second, consider the time when Lawrence uttered the offending words: it was November 1994, when the atmosphere was poisoned by the release of *The Bell Curve*. This is the book driving the debate that poor, low-IQ blacks and browns are taking the jobs and resources, thus ruining America. Lawrence may have been influenced by some of the *Bell Curve* rhetoric.

The fact is that blacks on average have lower standardized test scores than whites. The other side of the debate is that the tests are a narrow, incomplete way to measure intelligence.

Rather than publicly executing an administrator, why not direct that rage at exposing the inadequacy of IQ and similar tests. And wage war against a disturbing phenomenon: The erosion of interest in reading and writing at an inopportune time — as more people of color are poised to enter higher education and the workforce.

Francis Lawrence suggests that people focus on his deeds more than words he now is insisting he "misspoke."

More worrisome than the fire started by Lawrence's words is the bonfire of missed learning opportunities burning out of control.

Jobline

The *Village Voice* seeks an assistant editor / fact checker. Demands ability to work unsupervised and under pressure and to set priorities when the volume of work exceeds the time available. Please send resume to Evette Porter. The *Voice* also seeks an entry-level designer. Must have a deep interest in good typography and photography. Send resume to Anne Todd, *Village Voice*, 36 Cooper Square, New York, N.Y. 10003-7118. . . . WHY? 91 FM seeks a reporter/producer to report and produce reports on environmental and arts issues and general assignment reports for South Jersey. Also seeking a production assistant for *Radio Times*, a live, daily public affairs show. Send cover letter, resume and non-returnable tape to Deborah Palmer, WHY?, Inc., 150 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106. . . . Weyerhaeuser Co. seeks candidates for its Corporate Affairs Associate Program. Contact Sally Wagner, Weyerhaeuser, Corporate Headquarters, Tacoma, Wash. 98477. Or call (206) 924-2345. . . . *Institutional Investor* seeks a newsletters reporter and a senior writer for its London editorial office. Send resumes to The Personnel Department, Code A, 12th Floor, 488 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

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Peek at the past

Five years ago
April 1990

DALLAS – The competitive environment and helter-skelter pace of daily journalism makes it no place for a person who can't get to work or to an assignment.

Some of us are fortunate enough to cover beats such as city hall that don't require much driving.

General assignment reporters who cover cops and other dynamic beats don't have that luxury.

Besides those tremendous Columbia student loan checks many of you write out each month, a house and a car are the biggest investments many of us will make during our lives.

Many of us dream of those big markets: New York, Washington, Los Angeles. The reality is that many of us land in the itty-bitty places that have pitiful public transportation systems.

In small cities and towns, distances between destinations can be great.

I once covered a rural county. Riding my bike or walking from village to village was out of the question.

So, before you buy wheels, it's absolutely essential to consider a car's ability to get you where you have to be.

Editors and news directors don't have time for sob stories.

"A car has to be like a reporter," says Melvin Coffee, executive producer of KXAS-TV in Dallas-Fort Worth. "It has to be ready to go immediately."

Before you accept an offer, insist that the newspaper or TV station agree to a salary that allows you to buy groceries, pay rent, student loans and a car note.

— By Toni Y. Joseph, J-'86

This is an excerpt from "Effective journalists must have steady cars."

The author, now deceased, was on a team that won the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting.

DISTORTION

News magazine piece examining media and affirmative action

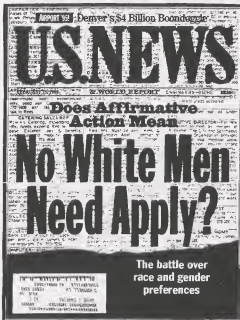
To: *U.S. News & World Report*.
Re: "A quest for diversity" (2/13).

"Young white males . . . consigned to distant bureaus, filing stories but lacking staff benefits such as health care and pensions." Huh?

That was a curious, and I strongly suspect, deceptive passage of your story. Those "oppressed" white men must not be staff writers, but stringers or correspondents. Second, they're young. It is rare for a young journalist — white, black, brown or yellow — to make it to the staff of the *Los Angeles Times*, the fourth-largest American daily.

Veterans need only apply.

So don't suggest that minority journalists are responsible for the plight of these young white men unless you can show an egregious breach of employment rules. As for the cover story, "Does Affirmative Action mean no white men



need apply?," it weighs in largely as another round of scapegoating racial minorities and women in an uncertain economy.

WAYNE J. DAWKINS

A postcard from the co-editors said they would share the comments with "appropriate members of our editorial staff."

B.A.N. PEOPLE

Rob Parker, '88, is a sports columnist at *New York Newsday*. Before that he was a sports columnist at *The Detroit Free Press* for two years. . . . Brenda

Webber, '84, wrote the April cover story for *Emergence* asking, is Jesus Christ of African descent or a man of color? Religious scholars and historians explain why geography and numerous overlooked facts makes the provocative question impossible to dismiss. . . . Esther Iverem, '83, is completing a National Arts Journalism Fellowship at Columbia University in New York. She said she is focusing on film, visual arts and art history. . . . Linda Wright Moore, '73, was a scheduled panelist at this month's American Society of Newspaper Editors Convention in Dallas for a session called "The private lives of editors." Moore, the *Philadelphia Daily*

News opinion writer and radio host is married to Acel Moore, associate editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.



Linda Wright Moore

Jobline

WHYY 91 FM has internship opportunities in numerous departments. Internships are available on an unpaid basis for full-time college students earning course credits. Send resume to: Maureen A. Pilla, WHYY, Inc., 150 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106. ... The *Village Voice* seeks an assistant editor / fact checker. Demands ability to work unsupervised and under pressure and to set priorities when the volume of work exceeds the time available. Please send resume to Evette Porter. The *Voice* also seeks an entry-level designer. Must have a deep interest in good typography and photography. Send resume to Anne Todd, *Village Voice*, 36 Cooper Square, New York, N.Y. 10003-7118 ... Weyerhaeuser Co. seeks candidates for its Corporate Affairs Associate Program. Contact Sally Wagner, Weyerhaeuser, Corporate Headquarters, Tacoma, Wash. 98477. Or call (206) 924-2345. ... *Institutional Investor* seeks a newsletters reporter and a senior writer for its London editorial office. Send resumes to The Personnel Department, Code A, 12th Floor, 488 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York seeks an editor of research publications. Must be experienced in substantive editing of manuscripts. Contact Lorraine Saulino, 59 Maiden Lane, 39th Floor, New York, NY 10045.

Spring meeting

The Columbia University Journalism Alumni Association Spring Meeting and Alumni Awards is Friday, May 5, 6-8 p.m. in the Low Library Faculty Room. A reception follows at 8 p.m.

A 15th reunion is planned for the Class of 1980. Many activities are Saturday, May 6.

The cost for a buffet lunch and open bar at the Faculty House is \$45 per person. For details contact Kathleen Brown at the alumni office (212) 854-3864.

THE CONVENTION packages were mailed calling for pre-registration to the National Association of Black Journalists 20th Anniversary convention in Philadelphia.

Make this change on the schedule: The "Children and Violence" plenary is to elaborate on the multipart series by the *Philadelphia Daily News*.

The gritty tabloid was mistaken for the bigger broadsheet that works out of the

same building. This happens a lot.

R & B innovators who put soul in Rock 'n' Roll

The tune "Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight" glided through hit movies "Three Men and a Cradle" and "American Graffiti" and often is a catchy jingle in TV commercials.

Who wrote and originally performed this timeless song? The Spaniels, five teen-agers from blue-collar Gary, Ind.

Now, author Richard G. Carter brings us their story, a bittersweet one of the early days of R&B and Rock 'n' Roll. *Goodnight: Sweetheart, Goodnight* comes to bookstores May 15. It retails for \$12 (ISBN 0-9635720-2-4). Available from August Press, Sicklerville, NJ 08081, publisher of *Black Journalists: The NABJ Story* and *Welcome to Exit 4: Enter at Own Risk*.



From left: Opal Courtney Jr.; Teddy Shelton; "Pookie" Hudson; Billy Shelton; Willie C. Jackson, and Gerald Gregory.

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Peek at the past Spring meeting at Columbia

Ten years ago
May 1985

Aid for African nations and U.S. student scholarship money — at least \$30,000 combined — was raised by a handful of National Association of Black Journalists affiliate chapters.

In Philadelphia, the affiliate chapter and WDAS-FM raised \$9,300 for Africare after co-sponsoring a 36-hour radiothon to support drought relief efforts.

In Chicago, the association of black journalists presented two \$2,500 scholarships to students in memory of *Chicago Tribune* opinion writer Leanita McClain.

In Dallas-Fort Worth, the affiliate raised funds for six scholarships and made a donation to Africare.

In Greater Los Angeles, \$17,000 for scholarships was raised by the Black Journalists Association of Southern California.

In the news industry, Jay T. Harris became executive editor of the *Philadelphia Daily News* (in 1995 Harris is publisher of the San Jose, Calif. *Mercury News*) . . . Malcolm Poindexter became editorial director of KYW-TV in Philadelphia . . . Bennie Ivory became editor of the *Clarion-Ledger* and *Daily News* in Jackson, Miss. . . *Oakland Tribune* publisher Robert C. Maynard's syndicated column was picked up by the daily newspapers in Omaha and Minneapolis.

(Maynard died in 1993. A collection of his writings is to be published next month by Andrews & McMeel, Kansas City, Mo.)
— Wayne J. Dawkins

The Columbia University Journalism Alumni Association Spring Meeting and Alumni Awards is Friday, May 5, 6-8 p.m. in the Low Library Faculty Room. A reception follows at 8 p.m.

1995 Journalism Alumni Award winners are:

- Soma Golden Behr, '62, assistant managing editor, *The New York Times*;
- John J. Curley, '63, president and CEO, Gannett Co.;
- Alan Emory, '47, Washington correspondent, The Watertown (NY) *Daily Times*
- Paul Friedman, '67, executive vice president, ABC News.

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Many activities are Saturday, May 6. Contact Kathleen Brow at the alumni office (212) 854-3864.

Journalist's guide to Middle Eastern Americans Primer is in sync with diversity, says editor

By Cheryl Devall

CHICAGO—Five years ago, during Nelson Mandela's visit to Detroit, I saw a poster that probably wouldn't have seen the light of day in most other American cities. It depicted Mandela and Palestinian Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat locked in a comradely embrace. It was visible in neighborhood shop windows throughout Detroit, which is home to the largest concentration of Middle Eastern Americans in the United States.

The poster appealed to the idea that African and Palestinian peoples share common struggles and destinies. But in Detroit, as in other cities, economic tension and cultural misunderstanding threatens real affinity between African-Americans and Americans of Middle Eastern descent.

That is one reason staffers at *The Detroit Free Press*, with financial support from the Asian American Journalists Association and the assistance of Arab-American and Jewish community leaders, created *A Journalist's Guide to Middle Eastern Americans*.

The 30-page booklet offers a compendium of important issues, dates and personalities in the nation's Middle Eastern communities, as well as cultural pointers (examples: "Not all Arabs are Muslims.

Many are Christians. In addition, all Muslims are not Arabs." and "Even among Arabs there are huge cultural differences. Please don't go to a Chaldean for comment on something that happened in the Palestinian community.") Also included are a glossary of commonly used terms and source lists of community and academic experts.

Joe Grimm, a former readers' representative (ombudsman) for *The Free Press*, began work on the guide four years ago. "It's completely in sync with the broad idea of diversity," he says. "It's compatible with Unity (first joint convention of minority journalists) in that respect."

The publication made its debut at the Unity '94 convention in Atlanta and has been distributed as well to members of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the Radio and Television News Directors Association, and to other journalists by request.

About 9,000 copies are in circulation.

While "most journalists who've gotten it have said, 'Thanks, this is great,'" says Joe Grimm, he adds that some people in communities covered in the guide are not entirely pleased. "Islam is a lot more complicated than we're able to explain in 30 pages," he said "and some Jews say

Continued on back page

Jobline

WITF TV-33 and 89.5 FM, Harrisburg, Pa., seeks a **graphic designer** to create ads for *Apprise* magazine, newspapers, newsletters, media kits and brochures. Qualifications: Two years desktop publishing experience using MAC with Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator. Publishing experience preferred. Send letter and resume to Shelley Danzy, WITF, Inc., Box 2954, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105 ... **WHYY 91 FM** has **internship opportunities** in numerous departments. Internships are available on an unpaid basis for full-time college students earning course credits. Send resume to: Maureen A. Pilla, WHYY, Inc., 150 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106. ... **Institutional Investor** seeks a **staff writer and headline writer** for its Rockville, Md. office and a **bureau chief** for its Chicago office. Send resumes to The Personnel Department, Code A, 12th Floor, 488 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022 ... The Federal Reserve Bank of New York seeks an **editor** of research publications. Must be experienced in substantive editing of manuscripts. Contact Lorraine Saulino, 59 Maiden Lane, 39th Floor, New York, NY 10045.

B.A.N. PEOPLE

On April 13 the Sylvia Wilson Memorial Scholarship Committee of the New York Association of Black Journalists held a "Having Our Say" theater party and cast reception to close a \$7,000 gap and create a Wilson endowment at Columbia University. Wilson, 28, a 1985 Journalism graduate, died of brain cancer in 1991. She was an editor at *The New York Times*. Since her death two scholarships have been awarded and \$20,000 has been raised toward an endowment.

R & B innovators who put soul in Rock 'n' Roll

The tune "Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight" glided through hit movies "Three Men and a Cradle" and "American Graffiti" and often is a catchy jingle in TV commercials.

Who wrote and originally performed this timeless song? The Spaniels, five teen-agers from blue-collar Gary, Ind.

Now, author Richard G. Carter brings us their story, a bittersweet one of the early days of R&B and Rock 'n' Roll. *Goodnight: Sweetheart, Goodnight* comes to bookstores May 15. It retails for \$12 (ISBN 0-9635720-2-4). Available from August Press, Sicklerville, NJ 08081, publisher of *Black Journalists: The NABJ Story* and *Welcome to Exit 4: Enter at Own Risk*.

Middle Eastern Americans

Continued

(the guide) is too heavily weighted toward the Islamic Middle East. It is a good idea, but an imperfect instrument," says Grimm. He hopes to rally support for a future revised and expanded edition.

Copies of *A Journalist's Guide to Middle Eastern Americans* are available through Grimm at *The Detroit Free Press*, 321 W. Lafayette, Detroit, Mich. 48226. Computer disk copies are available in Xy-Write or as ASCII text files. The cost depends on the number of copies ordered.

Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight

The story of the Spaniels

by Richard G. Carter

Available in bookstores May 15

Black Alumni Network

5 Hopewell Lane
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Peek at the past

Five years ago
June 1990

Betty Winston Baye, J-'80, was selected to be a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University for 1990-91. Though many people were confident she would be selected, Baye said she was surprised. She called the final interview in Cambridge, Mass., the "weekend from hell." Baye's thighs bonded, an interviewer nodded off in the stuffy room, and the usually quick-witted woman suffered a mental lapse: Baye couldn't describe the study project she researched so thoroughly. But the judges knew they had a winner. Baye's research project at Harvard was "Literacy and the Use of Culturally Conscious Material in Newspapers to Promote It."

• • •

"I AM A FIRM believer in multiculturalism and in finding strategies to boost racial diversity in journalism.

"The 1980s was a devastating decade for African-Americans with respect to higher education. After steady gains in the '60s and '70s, participation by blacks in college stagnated. College costs have skyrocketed and student aid has not kept pace. When it comes to journalism education, I wonder: How will the American news media honestly reflect the society it covers unless more people of color are in the pipeline, preparing to become journalists? That's a difficult question. I've raised it several times at various forums and I've yet to get a satisfactory reply.

"I'm up to the challenge to struggle to improve conditions. I feel obligated. A generous grant from a prestigious media company paid most of my J-school tuition. It gave me an opportunity to study here . . . I want the same opportunities and more for journalists of color who come behind me. (*Remarks from Wayne Dawkins J-'80, after receiving a 1990 Columbia Journalism Alumni Award*)

Benefit raised \$7,000; organizers say goal reached for Sylvia Wilson fund

At least \$5,000 was raised at a gala New York theater party for an endowment fund in memory of 1985 Columbia University Journalism graduate Sylvia Wilson, said an organizer. If contributors return their matching gift forms as promised, contributors will have closed a \$7,000 gap and establish the first permanent endowment in the name of an African-American journalist at Columbia.

The minimum \$25,000 endowment would mean that annual scholarships can be generated off the interest from the fund.

Yanick Rice-Lamb, immediate past president of the New York Association of Black Journalists, said \$5,000 after expenses was raised for the April 13 "Having Our Say" theater party and cast reception. The fund-raising committee anticipated at least \$2,900 in additional corporate matching gift pledges. About 65 people attended and 20 people who were unable to attend made contributions.

Wilson, 28, a 1985 Journalism graduate, died of brain cancer in 1991. She was an editor at *The New York Times*. Since her death 20 \$2,500 college scholarships have been awarded. Rice-Lamb emphasized that the goal apparently met was a minimum. She urged contributors to increase the size of the fund so interest can generate enough additional funds for annual scholarships.

Annual scholarships
can be generated off
the interest.

DEVALL, J-'82, RECEIVES KNIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Cheryl Devall, J-'82, was selected as a 1995-96 Knight Fellow and will study at Stanford University from September to June. Devall is a Chicago-based correspondent with National Public Radio and before that she was a reporter with *The Courier-Journal* of Louisville, Ky.

She is also a contributing editor with this newsletter.

In 1993-94, J-school classmate **Michelle Johnson of *The Boston Globe*** was Knight Fellow.

20th NABJ convention REGISTER NOW OR PAY DOUBLE AT THE DOOR

The National Association of Black Journalists annual convention is Wednesday to Sunday, Aug. 16-20 at the new Philadelphia convention center and Marriott Hotel. The pre-registration deadline is June 23. Pay as little as \$250 by that date or \$500 afterward at the door. (703) 648-1270.

MANDELA AWARD WINNER

Charlotte Webb Collins, a hospital administrator from Memphis, received the 1995 Nelson Mandela Award for Health and Human Rights, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation of California announced. Webb Collins shared the award with Mankuba Ramalape, a South African nurse.

The award was established in 1993 to recognize extraordinary accomplishments in improving the health of poor people in the United States and South Africa.

Collins initiated a study of patients from West Tennessee, Eastern Arkansas and the Mississippi Delta who had been refused care or transferred by hospitals because of their poverty or lack of insurance.

Her research contributed to changes in federal and state law prohibiting inappropriate patient transfers.

A followup study was replicated in many other communities.



Jobline

WITF TV-33 and 89.5 FM, Harrisburg, Pa., seeks a **Director of Production** and a **Television Director**. Send letter and resume to Shelley Danzy, WITF, Inc., Box 2954, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105. . . . *The Village Voice* seeks a **photo researcher** in the Art Department. Send resume to Dan Pic, Village Voice, 36 Cooper Square, New York, N.Y. 10003-7118. . . . WHYY 91 FM has **internship opportunities**. Available on an unpaid basis for full-time college students earning course credits. Send resume to: Maureen A. Pilla, WHYY, Inc., 150 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106. . . . *Institutional Investor* seeks **senior editors** for its New York, London and Hong Kong bureaus for a news service covering Over the Counter (OTC) derivatives. Also sought are Associate Editors in these bureaus to cover dealers, users, exchanges and related areas. Send resumes to The Personnel Department, Code A, 12th Floor, 488 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

Make a connection
through JOBLINE

WITF
TV 33
89.5 FM

B.A.N. People

James McBride, '80, produced and wrote most of the songs for the album-CD "Caution to the Wind," by Philadelphia-based vocalist Pura Fe~ (Poo-Rah-Fay). The recording company is Shanchie Entertainment Corp. and Cachet Records. McBride has previously written songs performed by Anita Baker and Grover Washington Jr. . . . **Barbara Dent**, '78 & **Craig Dellimore**, '77, are proud parents of a son, Dale, born May

23. Dellimore is a journalist at WBBM Newsradio 78 in Chicago and wife Dent is VP/staff attorney for the Leo Burnett Ad agency. . . . **Wayne Dawkins**, '80, is among 22 people featured in the book *My First Year As a Journalist: Real-World Stories From America's Newspaper and Magazine Journalists*, by Dianne Selditch (Walker and Company, N.Y.). . . . **Marjorie Valbrun**, '86, off *The Philadelphia Inquirer* wrote about inner city high girls who initiate romantic moves on boys (5/28). Story suggested a shift in customs.

Editorial: TAINTED FRUIT?

A white sports copy editor with Newsday of Long Island, N.Y., was fired for allegedly making disparaging racial remarks about an incoming Native American trainee, *Editor & Publisher* reported. A lot is wrong with this incident. The allegation against the 44-year-old copy editor is based on an anonymous letter to management. The accused was not allowed to face the accuser. How reliable was the anonymous witnesses' account? The end result was the employee was canned.

"We are satisfied that he was fired," said Dorothy Gilliam, president of the National Association of Black Journalists. Minority journalists ought to view this incident with alarm. This was not a victory for diversity. It is actually a well-intentioned but nevertheless arbitrary act that serves to muddy the waters of racial understanding instead of foster civility.

Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight

The story of the Spaniels

by Richard G. Carter

"They were before their time."
— **James Brown**

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Trotter Group in Fla.; columnists interview President Clinton

The William Monroe Trotter Group, about two dozen African-American daily newspaper columnists, held their fourth annual meeting in mid-October at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, Fla.

During the second full day of seminars four Trotter Group columnists who covered the Million Man March in Washington briefed colleagues.

Norman Lockman of the *Wilmington News Journal* said the crowd experienced "churn," a newspaper term for gaining and losing subscribers. At least 400,000 people were in one place but people were coming and going all day. Attendance, said Lockman, was easily double the U.S. Park Service estimate bitterly criticized by march organizers.

Richard Prince of Virginia-based *Cities in Schools* noted that some white men participated. "I am here to atone" read a banner carried by one man.

Another carried a picture of his black adopted son. "I am here for him," read his sign. The signs seemed like shields, said Prince, but were not necessary. The crowd was peaceful.

During a column critique, Poynter Institute Dean Karen F. Brown said writers should have courage in telling the story, strive to educate readers, add humor and humility to their work, use a variety of approaches and try to expand their command of the craft.

Using a Trotter member as a prop, Brown used karate to explain that good writing needs to have a target or focus, the writer should choose a path to the target through organizing the work, the story should have a last-minute snap or kicker and the writer should maintain his balance and practice the moves thoroughly.

Senior scholar Roy Peter Clark added that writers should read their stories out loud before turning them in to hear how the words work together, vary the sentence length to create rhythm and space, name the parts of the story, play with the sounds of words, listen to music for inspiration in writing and use music as a reward for good writing.

The St. Petersburg Times covered a community forum at South Florida University in which some Trotter members were on a panel on race and media, from O.J. Simpson to Colin Powell. Prof. Charles Ogletree of Harvard moderated.

The Trotter Group was mentioned in the Oct. 22 *Washington Post* Ombudsman column on Million Man March coverage.

Geneva Overholser tried to explain why the newspaper received such sharply different responses from readers and callers.

"Earlier in the week at a gathering of black newspaper columnists," wrote Overholser, "a particularly thoughtful man speculated on just this kind of issue. Lewis W. Diuguid, an associate editor and columnist at the *Kansas City Star*, spoke of how reporters cover an event based inevitably on their own experience."

Continued on back page

Editor's Note

We're looking for a few dozen of you.

You are the people who did not get the October newsletter.

Why? Calamity struck. Our 11-year-old Mac Plus and the rickety software that performed in it pooped out.

An electronic list with all the B.A.N. subscribers disintegrated. The program that had the standard layout went kaput too.

But readers don't want sob stories, they want their newsletter.

About two-thirds of the readers were mailed last month's newsletter.

We're trying to find the rest of you.

Please write or call and we will send the current newsletter and the back issue.

The up side of a disaster is we were left

no choice but to modernize. Without a lot of sarcasm a young computer wiz said the old Mac was akin to driving a Model T on the information superhighway.

We're grateful to that old Model T. Since spring 1985 it gave us more service than we could ever imagine. It survived moves to Northwest Philadelphia and South Jersey and several power pack blow outs.

The PC was given a respectful burial.

Now it is time to move forward.

We have a Mac Performa that should at least take us where we need to go and get us on and off the busy information highway.

We have an e-mail address: wayne@cyberenet.net.

We're reconstructing the mailing list as best we can. Subscribers who recently renewed will see the future expiration date posted in the upper right corner of the mailing label.

The rest of you, please help us. If you know your expiration date, let us know. Better yet, if you have been getting the newsletter and have not paid for it, please support us.

Traditionally November is the month we include a survey in the newsletter to find out what you read us for and what we can do to better serve you.

We're skipping the survey this month because we're in recovery or reconstruction. Nevertheless, we want to hear from you.

The media landscape is changing all around us. We want to be your effective vehicle.

— Wayne Dawkins

Trotter/Continued from front page

"This isn't about bad reporting. It's about taking down things that slap you in the face. If journalists realize that this is the landscape that we're working with, this can allow them to know it's just normal human conditions and we can go beyond what's obvious and get more toward the truth of the experience of other people."

Two weeks after the Trotter meeting in Florida, a dozen members interviewed President Clinton at the White House Nov. 1.

At press time columns by DeWayne Wickham (USA TODAY and Gannett News Service) and Norm Lockman moved on the wires. Betty Winston Baye, J-'80, of *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville, Ky., was among the interviewers.

The Trotter Group is named in honor of the early 20th century editor of the *Guardian* newspaper of Boston.

Trotter challenged Booker T. Washington's accommodationist strategy and had a fierce argument with President Woodrow Wilson at the White House regarding segregation and Jim Crow.

— KCABJ Newsletter contributed to this report.

JOBLINE

The News of Boca Raton, Fla. seeks a **copy desk chief** and **senior photographer** who will supervise the photo staff. Send resumes to John Futch, managing editor, *The News*, 33 SE Third Street, Boca Raton, Fla.



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33432. . . . *The Village Voice* seeks candidates for these positions: **Copy chief** (supervise a staff of copy editors and coordinate with editors, the art department and production); **copy editor / assistant editor**, part-time (three days, 21 hours per week), and **librarian** (maintain a database of full text articles for dissemination to online providers and fulfill research requests from editors and writers). Submit resumes to Karen Cook, deputy

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managing editor, *The Village Voice*, 36 Cooper Square, New York, N.Y. 10003-7118. For the librarian position write to Ava Seave, general manager, at the same address. . . . WITF TV 33 and 89.5 FM Harrisburg, Pa. seeks a **producer and electronic graphics / post production specialist**. Send resumes to Shelley Danzy, WITF, Box 2954, 1982 Locust

WITF

Lane, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105. . . . WHYY TV 12 and FM 91, Philadelphia, seek a **producer** for TV promotions. Send resume and non-refundable tape to Maureen Pilla, employment manager, WHYY, Inc. 150 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106. . . . *The Courier-Post* of Camden-Cherry Hill, N.J. seeks a **business editor**. Send resume to Ev Landers, *Courier-Post*, 301 Cuthbert Blvd., Cherry Hill, N.J. 08002. . . . American Society of Newspaper Editors regional **Minority Job Fairs** resume this month in Detroit Nov. 16-18 (contact Joe Grimm, *The Free Press*, 321 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, Mich. 48226) and Los Angeles Dec. 1-2 (contact Cozette Munatones, California Chicano New Media Association, 727 W. 27 Street, Los Angeles, Calif. 90007).

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— **DISCoveries** (for record and CD collectors).

Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight: The Story of the Spaniels

by Richard G. Carter

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